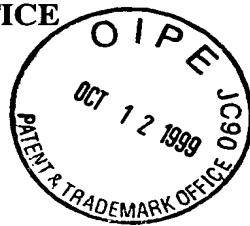


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EOP/11/99
Patent

Attorney's Docket No. 001560-308

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Patent Application of)
ASHIKARI et al) Group Art Unit: 1649
Application No.: 08/894,356) Examiner: O. Zaghmout
Filed: August 18, 1997)
For: GENE ENCODING A PROTEIN)
HAVING ACYL GROUP TRANSFER)
ACTIVITY)

AMENDMENT AND REPLY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In complete response to the Official Action mailed on April 9, 1999, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In The Specification:

In compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.823, please insert the attached paper copy of the "Sequence Listing" between the last page of the Disclosure (page 49) and the first page of the Claims to replace the Sequence Listings previously filed on February 9, 1998 and December 23, 1998.

In The Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 4, 7, 24 or 25 as follows:

- SMF 17*
1. (Amended) A gene [Gene] encoding a protein having aromatic acyl group transfer activity [or a derivative thereof having said enzymatic activity].

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